Mission News.

WITH ESPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE WORK OF THE AMERICAN BOARD IN JAPAN.

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General Notes.

At the last communion at Kujo Church, Osaka, seven joined the church, making a total of over 50 who have been added this year.

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The National S. S. Association of Japan began in October, to publish a monthly, called *Nichiyo-gakko Shimbun*, in the interests of its work.

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By the latest accession to our files, thru Dr. Rowland's ample generosity, we have completed the entire series of volumes of MISSION NEWS, with the exception of three numbers, Vol. I, No. 2, Vol. III, Nos. 3, 4. These will come hard.

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The Christians at Suma are planning to build a church before long. 1,100 *yen*, have been pledged by them and it is expected that about 400 *yen* more will be raised locally; 2,200 *yen* are needed, and they look to missionaries and other outside friends, to furnish the balance. A suitable lot can be rented for church and parsonage. As our *kogisho* is the only Christian work systematically sustained there, the outlook is good for the development of the nucleus of a dozen members, into an independent church, one of these years.

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Notwithstanding hard times and some other unpromising conditions, the foreign communities in Kobe and Osaka, gave an exceptionally generous response to Dr. Pettee as he went about this year soliciting contributions for the Okayama Orphanage. The total amount secured was 1,678 *yen* or just under an average of $5 per contributor, which was 232 *yen* in excess of the largest previous collection. No wonder he returned home with a broad smile on his face, being heard to remark, "This surpasses my expectations." It remains to add, however, that more yet is needed.

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One of the difficulties foreigners have with the Japanese language, is well illustrated in the November Japan Evangelist. The writer reports an interest-

ing interview between Dr. Hepburn and a Japanese, who called on the aged missionary at his home in East Orange, N. J. The report is based on an account in the *Kirisuto-kyō Sekai* (Christian World), the weekly organ of the *Kumi-ai* churches. The translator gives the name of Dr. Hepburn's interviewer as J. Aburaya, explaining that the Chinese ideographs may be read Yudani. But he failed, in both cases, to give the actual reading used for the gentleman's name, which happens to be Aburatani, a well-known *Kumi-ai* pastor, who has been studying in America. One of the C. E. officers is Mr. Sawaya, as he is now called, but when he was Dr. Pettee's language teacher, he was known as Sawatani.

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It was our privilege to cross the Pacific with Mrs. Billings, and, later, to come in touch with Mrs. Harrison—both actively engaged in Christian work for Japanese at Los Angeles. The former writes, "I am in the work here as usual, at our new Congregational church for Japanese. We have many fine Christian young men, but thousands who are not." The latter, "We have a night school of about 30 boys, a day school with 7, a children's school of 20, a church of 20, a ladies' sewing school of 10, a Mission Home, etc. We are working day and night—classes *every* day and *every* evening except Saturday. I have been hoping we could raise $10 to pay for 100 copies of Morning Light, but as yet it has not come. We have to raise about $130 every month *ourselves*, as the A. M. A. is giving us only about $36. We have four paid workers, at salaries of $30, $20, $15 and $15. We have some very earnest Christians, but we do not reach as many as we would like, because of limited time and money. We are anxious to broaden our work. We need a small monthly magazine publisht *here*, in Japanese, giving all news of the Congregational work on this coast, so that the thousands of boys working in the country, in fruit orchards and on the railroads may be helpt a little."

* * * *

It is clear that the Zulu branch of our So. African Mission should get busy and publish a Natal Mission News. Rev. F. B. Bridgman kindly sends us occasionally, his interesting, type-written news letters. The last, dated Oct. 9, has an item of special interest to us. Mr. Mtetwa, a fairly educated, Christian Zulu, is head flower-gardener at the grounds of one of Durban's merchant princes.

"Dear father in God.

May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ which has appeared in South Africa strengthen and establish you for the great Kingdom to come! It is my duty to thank the Almighty God through Jesus Christ our Mediator and Redeemer for what he has done for me and for all Native friends to hear that our young children school is under your care, as we had the children school at Windmill Road, but it was just like the seeds which fell upon stony places, they sprung up because they had no deepness (of earth) and when the sun was up, they were scorched, I wish the school would be like the seeds which fell into good ground, to-day. It troubles us to take our Native children to the Indian Schools. I again learn the lesson that God hears and answers prayer. I wish God would recompense thy work, and a full reward be given thee of the Lord God of Israel, under whose wings thou art come to trust. I again thank Mrs. Bridgman for her kindness to take much interest in the New school. Please permit me to remain with 600 bags of compliments and cart loads of prayers to you and family.

Your Affectionate Servant,

A. J. Mtetwa."

"The occasion of this gratitude, expressed in such apostolic phraseology, needs

further explanation perhaps. During the last school term Mr. Mtetwa secured a teacher for his own children, but so many others flocked in that the demand for a school could not be ignored. While having no funds for the purpose, we decided to at least make a start. For reasons which I need not explain here no one of our chapels was available for this purpose. So we rented quarters, cramped and miserable, at $6.25 a month, got boxes and planks for benches, and secured a splendid teacher, an earnest, Christian woman, who in this service is receiving less than half pay but gladly works for love of the children. In the two months since school opened the enrollment has grown to sixty, and most of the pupils have been brought into Sunday-school through the beautiful influence of the teacher. Just after starting this enterprise, aid came from a very unexpected quarter, in the nick of time, to help us over first difficulties. The Board's Mission in Japan sent us $12.50, the collection taken at their Annual Meeting, which was promptly invested in this school. We are hoping for means to place the school on a better and permanent basis. It is the only school for Zulu children in Durban."

Personalia.

Alice Cary is president of her class at Northfield.

Mr. Paul Rowland is a senior at Williams College.

Mrs. Newell, at Oberlin, has a mission study class of sixty-six.

Miss Ruth Gaines is at home with her parents at Coffee, Va.

Miss Helen Berry is enjoying her large kindergarten at Worcester, Mass.

Walter and Frank Cary, at Amherst, are making a name at foot-ball, this season.

Miss Katherine Berry is much stronger than for some years, and resides with her parents.

Miss A. W. Kent is spending the winter with friends in Florida. She is slowly improving.

Miss Lella Albrecht is Y. W. C. A. Secretary, at the University of Minn., and lives at home, in Minneapolis.

Miss Cozad's welcome return from her sojourn in the Hokkaido, fills out the dozen of Kobe Station once more.

Mr. Eugene Albrecht has a good business position at Minneapolis. Martyn is in better health and is at school again.

Admont and Edward Clark are "big college boys" at Oberlin. Sue Gulick and Edith Curtis are big college girls, there, too.

Miss Helen A. Davis arrived at Yokohama, from America, on Nov. 27. "To think I'll be here a whole year is almost too good to be true!"

Mr. Louis Davis is a student at the School of Mines, Golden, Colo., where he "has to work harder then he ever did in his life," but he enjoys it.

Miss Caroline Nivling has been greatly enjoying her trip to America by way of Europe. Her home address, after Jan. 1, is: 112 Kansas St., Sioux City, Iowa.

Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Wm. S. Ament, of our No. China Mission, passed homeward on the *Nippon Maru*. Their many friends will sorrow over the serious illness of Dr. Ament.

Mrs. J. R. Ball's address is changed for the winter, to Bay View, Washington, where Mr. Ball, having been obliged by ill health, to relinquish his studies at Evanston, has charge of a church.

Dwight Davis is studying at Oberlin and living at Prof. Bosworth's home. He is in the Academy with Florence Newell. He enjoys his debating class very much and "doesn't stop growing night or day."

Prof. Marshall R. Gaines writes that Mrs. Gaines has been suffering several months from a slight hemorrhage of the retina, which clouds the vision of her right eye. Her physicians give assurance that the cloudiness will eventually largely pass away.

Prof. Robt. J. Fulton, of Ohio Wesleyan University, on his recent visit to Japan, afforded quite a number of our readers, a pleasant hour, by his "readings," as they are now called—what we formerly called, and more properly, recitations and declamations.

In October, Miss Adams was "going here and there speaking; had spoken eighteen times" in and about her "old New Ham—old New Ham"—shire home. We hear of her at the W. B. M. meeting at Hartford, and they say she is "cutting lots of ice" for Hanabatake.

On Dec. 5 a surprise party was sprung on Miss Charlotte Burgess DeForest, at Kobe College, in commemoration of the fifth anniversary of her arrival as a missionary. Baptists, Methodists and Presbyterians joined with Congregationalists in celebrating the event.

Dr. and Mrs. DeForest were given a warm welcome on their return to Sendai last month. As their train approached the city, fireworks were sent up from the cherry park, in their honor; and a large number of distinguished citizens, including the Governor and the Mayor, welcomed them as they alighted.

Dr. DeForest has been decorated by H. M. the Emperor of Japan, with the Fourth Class of the Order of the Rising Sun, in recognition of his services during the Russo-Japanese war. Verbeck, Hepburn and Harris are other missionaries who have been decorated.

Rev. Mr. Eastman, graduate of Carleton College and of Oberlin Theological Seminary, and Mrs. Eastman, newly appointed missionaries of the American Board, visited several of our Stations *en route* to their temporary home at Tientsin. They expect eventually to be stationed at Lintsing, No. China.

Leeds Gulick departed from Kobe, Dec. 5, by the *Nippon Maru*, for Oakland, Calif., where he will enter school. He crosses the Pacific alone, yet altho only 14, he was brave and manly about it. While he will be met at San Francisco by relatives, nevertheless such a journey is a trying experience for such a lad. This early separation of children from parents, is one of the greatest sacrifices missionaries and their children are called upon to make.

Wellington Newell is in the third year at Oberlin high school, and is captain of the school's football team.

Mrs. Clark "seems to be a born tourer. The *basha* is excellent medicine for her and Japanese food, beds, sitting on the floor, and the constant change seem helpful to her rather than not. Hotel noises do not disturb her slumbers, tho the late hours cut short her sleep; but by doing her talking early in the meetings and leaving early she usually avoids the lateness. She returns from 24 days' outing better in health and more rested than when she started."

The Baikwa (Plum Blossom) Girls' School.

On the Japanese Harvest Festival, Nov. 23rd, this school dedicated its fine new building. Mr. Maegami, the Gem Tooth Powder manufacturer, was the only person present who assisted in the organization of the school in Jan., 1878—a little more than thirty years ago. But the Rev. T. Miyagawa who offered the dedicatory prayer in the new building, came to the pastorate of the Osaka 1st Church in the summer of the same year. The present pastor of the 3rd Church, Rev. Koki, became a teacher in the Baikwa School soon after its organization. To these three gentlemen and to others who have watched the progress of the school for nearly three decades, the contrast between the beginning and the present must have appeared very striking.

The school began thirty years ago in a hired Japanese house, with fifteen pupils and two Japanese and one foreign teacher. The house was fitted up at an expense of thirty five dollars, and from

THE BAIKWA NEW SCHOOL-BUILDING.

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the beginning, nearly every one of the pupils paid their own expenses.

The new buildings cost about 26,000 *yen*. They stand upon two and a half acres (3,000 *tsubo*) owned by the school, for which a sum of 22,000 *yen* was paid. Other expenses brought the total cost up to 51,000 *yen*—a large sum for a school with such small beginnings. The entire sum has been paid with the exception of about 1,000 *yen*—and it is hoped that by the 31st anniversary in January next, this small debt will be removed.

During all these years the Christian men and women who have been interested in the welfare of the school, have exhibited a wonderful spirit of self-sacrifice and devotion to its interests.

Through the influence of Pastor Sawayama, Rev. H. Leavitt and Miss Stevens (Mrs. J. T. Gulick), the school started with independence and the spirit of its founders has stayed with it through all these years. President Harada, of the Dōshisha College, stated in his address at the dedication, that the school has often lacked many things, but throughout these years it has never lost, for a day, its Christian purpose and its spirit of self-dependence. It has shown wonderful vitality. It is no easy task for a Christian Girls' School in Japan to keep itself abreast of the times, even with a yearly subsidy from America. But this school has struggled along with poor buildings, scant apparatus and poorly paid teachers, on its own resources, and yet has been able to attract to itself an unusually fine class of pupils. It has received no yearly grant in aid from the Woman's Board, beyond the maintenance of two foreign teachers. Twice, to be sure, did its American friends come to its assistance. The original plot of ground was purchased by a few missionaries then living in Osaka, who later presented it to the school. Then when the school was overflowing and its Japanese friends were unable to meet the emergency, the Woman's Board purchased a plot of ground opposite the school, and presented it to the trustees.

It is from the recent sale of these two plots of land that most (44,000 *yen*) of the money was obtained to meet the large expenditure mentioned above.

The new city electric lines had come so close to the old school, increasing the value of the land, that it became evident that the small school grounds could never be enlarged in that locality, and the school must either move or die. The new site is about ten minutes walk into the country, north of the main (Umeda) railway station. But the city is rapidly extending in that direction. Already a new electric railway is projected, that will run close by the school, in the direction of Mino and Arima. At present the school stands in the midst of rice fields and seems to be a long way from the centre of the city. On account of this, at the closing up of the old school, some of the pupils left and went to other schools—thus reducing the numbers to about one hundred and fifty. But if the friends of the school and the trustees will give it special support for a little while, in about five years the school will be in the midst of a new resident quarter of the city, from which it will draw new pupils to replace the old. There is now urgent need for a new dormitory.

The new building and grounds are so spacious, compared with the old, that the five *Kumi-ai* churches and Sunday-schools of the city held their annual picnic on the Emperor's birthday, at the school. The weather was wet and yet 1,200 persons were present. Thirty one years ago the members of the two *Kumi-ai* churches of the city together numbered only about fifty.

At the dedication, congratulatory addresses were read from the Governor of the prefecture, the Mayor of the city, the editor of the leading daily paper, and the principal of the largest girls' school of the city. These, with the address by President Harada, of the Dōshisha, the prayer by Rev. T. Miya-

gawa and the singing by the pupils, made a program of high order.

GEO. ALLCHIN.

An Outlook and Evangelistic Tour.

This latest trip involved upwards of 4,000 miles of travel and more than two full months of time. Principal places in Echigo, Jōshū and Kyūshū were visited, and assemblies of many sorts were addressed in church, chapel, club, tent, inn, parlor, school and hall. The journey from Sapporo to Niigata, where the work was begun, was 900 miles, and the return journey from Nagasaki was 1,500 miles, probably the longest ticket thus far purchased by any member of the O. and E. Committee.

The need of Echigo, the advanced stage of evangelization and the planted churches of Jōshū, the waiting harvest-fields in Kyūshū—these are some of the impressions gained.

The Church of Christ is not yet organized in Echigo, still the essence of it is there, in many Christian lives. Not a few strong Christian workers have already come out of the province, and we are encouraged to believe that the prayers and labors of many faithful disciples, from the days of Dr. Palm to the present, have not been in vain.

In Jōshū, though there is a fine group of self-supporting churches well manned by faithful ministers, and though the Christian forces have secured the abolition of a licensed social evil—a result found in only one other place in Japan—yet it is easy to see that a few missteps would lose for the Christian community, its vantage ground. The churches though planted, are weak. The ministers and prominent laymen are well aware of the weakness and danger. Wise counsel and prayer and effort are needed to develop the institutions so well begun. Here is opportunity for the Pedley family in their best strength.

And what shall be said of Kyūshū, that great island, origin of the *Yamato* people, home of Saigo and Tōgo and of so many of the Christian leaders of to-day? In the S. E., the Miyazaki Station and its associates, have sown the seed beside all waters. They are sowing still. Their need is a few more strong evangelists to gather in the sheaves. The reputation of Mr. Clark, like one whom he delights to honor, is, *a man who goes about doing good.* Mrs. Clark's work for girls, in her own home, has been eminently successful. A score of girls have thus been trained for Christian service and it is believed that not one of the number has defected. Mr. and Mrs. Olds though new comers, have done good work at the Japanese language and have begun to develop the Sunday-school work in a way that promises to make it telling for the whole region. Mr. Olds is also beginning to tour and to speak effectively in this strange tongue. The Miyazaki and the Obi churches are self-supporting and doing a good work.

And then N. W. Kyūshū, with four churches, in four big cities, with four young and vigorous pastors, recently organized into the Western Kyūshū *Bukwai,* is full of interest alike for its history, for its present, and for its hope. Kumamoto was the scene of the early Christian influence of Capt. Janes, and of the declaration for Christ of the young men whom he taught. It was also the scene of an unhappy conflict between our mission station and a Japanese company concerning property holdings. The interest of the present is in the hope and courage of the young ministers and young churches. Their spirit and mettle are just such as are needed in a region thickly populated with men of strong character, and when good means of communication make their work easily co-operative and easily unified. It would have been a joy to stay a week instead of a night in each place, to be with these young men and to lend a hand in their promising field.

Your correspondent came home with a

new sense of the privilege of being associated in service with these *Kumi-ai* churches of Christ. May the Spirit of the Christ more and more work in and through them to the speedy and complete evangelization of the whole nation!

GEORGE M. ROWLAND.

Okayama Happenings.

Okayama has gotten busy this fall. What with the opening day and review of troops at the new barracks; the welcomings by the city fathers and the school children, of the khaki-clothed officers and blue-uniformed boys of the garrison; the starting up of new shops here and there, with their tempting display of luxuries for the inner and the outer man; the entertaining for a night or two, of the troops passing thru to or from the military manœuvres; the visits of outside schools on their fall excursions, for instance, a Normal school from Osaka, fifty strong, spent some hours at the Orphanage, even eating lunch in its chapel; the twentieth anniversary exercises of one of the city's best known sewing schools, with the inevitable photograph; the fall meeting of the City Woman's Charity Society, and the yearly lawn party of the church's Woman's Society, when the sale of tickets and proceeds of the refreshment and toy tables netted the women sixty *yen* to add to their growing fund for the Sunday-school building, so longed for; the flying visit of Miss Strout and her strong plea for temperance, to the hundred or more men and women gathered to hear her; the touring thru the prefecture, with two days meetings here in the city, of the Sunday-school Association champions, Revs. N. Tamura and T. Ukai; to say nothing of the *shūchū dendō* (concentrated evangelistic services) at Kurashiki, twelve miles to the west, resulting in the baptism of forty-two men and women, on November 7; and the celebration of the independence of the little church at Saidaiji, five miles east, with their loving, hearty appreciative thanks to the resident missionary unable to be present that day, but who has fostered and helped those few Christians for many a long year; with all these and more, there has been enough to see, hear and do these last two months.

Just now the *Kumi-ai* church is temporarily closed for repairs, but Rev. M. Uemura, of Tokyo, has just finished a three days series of successful meetings at the Presbyterian chapel on the west side, and Rev. G. S. Boys, the missionary-in-charge of the S. P. G. church at the north end, has a class of ten students under instruction, preparing for baptism on Christmas day.

Mr. Nishiuchi, one of the workers in the Bible Band, preached a sermon recently, on the Emperor's last Rescript as interpreted by a Christian. It attracted considerable attention and he has been asked by the Educational Society to repeat it at the four large primary schools of the city. Y. M. C. A. Secretary Fisher, on his way to Korea, stopped off long enough for a conference with the leaders of the Okayama Y. M. C. A. and a successful evening meeting for Christian students, as well as a well-received address at the Sixth Higher School. At the earnest and repeated request of the trustees of the San Yo Higher Girls' School, Miss Yoshi Kajiro has become the principal (*kōcho*) of that well known institution, a position occupied by no other Japanese woman outside of Tokyo.

Hanabatake misses Miss Adams, but the workers there are busy in a quiet way, in school, dispensary and direct evangelistic work. Ten days ago the writer attended a regular meeting of the Woman's Society where sixteen of the neighborhood women, young and old, blind, lame and vigorous, listened attentively to three talks, the best one being on "Dimples and Finger-tips" which being interpreted, means smiling faces and busy hands.

Mr. Ishii, of the Orphanage, is much

better in health, and is putting new life and vigor, just now, into the farm colony at Hyuga, fifty little boys having just been sent there from here, to gain health and knowledge, in close contact with mother Earth.

It is the old-time Orphanage again, no more debt-making, no more dilly-dallying, but an earnestness in study and work, a strict economy even when it cuts to the quick, a wonderful spirit of self-sacrifice among the workers, house-mothers and older children (gifts of money, clothing, watches, etc., being brought to Mr. Ishii, toward paying off the debt), an increasing of gifts, both from friends in this country and Hawaii, so that hopeless as the situation has seemed, we again "thank God and take courage."

BELLE W. PETTEE.

Matsuyama Matters—and Some Others.

Returning to this field after an absence of sixteen months, altho the vacation was enjoyed to its full, the getting back into the harness is a genuine pleasure, and a real relief from that nervous wear which comes from the sense of a lack of fixed and regular duties. There is much truth in the saying, "Monotony is the spice of life."

While in America, aside from automobiles and flying machines and baseball, I saw and heard many things of interest, all the way from the down-fallen and splendidly uprising San Francisco, to the Reversing Falls at St. John, N.B.,—where the Fundy tides daily convert a fifteen feet waterfall to the south, into a fifteen feet fall to the north. These, and other things, greatly impressed me with the ups and downs of life in general, and the great problems that are confronting our country, and the heroic efforts being made to preserve the equilibrium,—to keep down what is unworthy, and kaep up that which is worthy. The great problem of immigration is one that comes close home to every community. We have been inclined, perhaps, to resent the attitude of our government and people towards Japanese immigration. But that is only a small part of this problem. To go and see whole communities being transformed, and given a character and ideals far removed from those of the traditional American sort, inclines one to sympathize somewhat with those who would restrict this movement and give the Republic a chance to digest and assimilate what it has already received. In one town that I visited, of the 8,000 people, 5,000 were foreign born (3,000 being Italians), and 25 countries were represented. The local pastor was doing genuine foreign missionary work, even having acquired the Italian language in his desire to bring to this unshepherded flock the Christ spirit and the true American spirit. Both in city and country splendid efforts are being made to solve this great problem of making good citizens out of these alien peoples. The problem of intemperance is another great and pressing one, and one of the most impressive things in the land to-day, is the growing temperance sentiment, which has advanced from the stage of individual pledges, to "local option," to "county option," and now to "state option," with a steadiness and persistence that recently caused the leading liquor organ to print in large letters, on its front page, the most suggestive words, "What must we do to be saved?" At a banquet given in Cleveland on Jan. 29th, on President MacKinley's birthday, and in his memory, attended by 550 of the foremost men of that city and vicinity, and addressed by Secretary Taft, to me one of the most noteworthy things there was the total absence of liquors at the tables. And all toasts were drunk in cold water. This sentiment has emptied some of the prisons of "dry" Kansas, and caused "wet" Oklahoma to borrow them for her increasing criminal population; has increased school attendance; and has greatly increased bank deposits.

There are also great church problems, which are being approached with a great and broad spirit,—the "Business Men's Movement" being one of the evidences. Great problems everywhere, but everywhere also great solutions attempted.

Altogether, tho one finds much to criticize in his own land, he can but feel that its trend is towards high ideals. I could most truly say as I left those dear shores, "With all thy faults I love thee still."

The trip across the Pacific in the *Tenyo Maru*, was made memorable by the presence of the party of Chambers of Commerce men, with their wives, from the Pacific Coast and Hawaii. Hard headed business men, but with sympathetic hearts and religious spirit, their presence in Japan on their "mission," as they always rightly called it, could not fail to be helpful towards a better mutual understanding and respect, as between these two lands, representing, as they did, some of the finest elements of our Western Christian civilization.

A recent trip thru this Matsuyama field shows that things have been well looked after during the past year, and that real progress has been made. Pastor Nihei is still serving in the barracks, but usually is able to be present on Sunday morning to conduct his Bible class, and to preach, clad in his soldier regimentals. Komachi Church is enjoying its new building, and tho some trying experiences have been theirs, they are now facing the future courageously under their new pastor, Mr. Hamada. The Factory Girls' Home has still further enlarged its borders, is more than full, and lacks only financial means for entering into a still greater work that lies ready and waiting at its doors. The Girls' School shows the result of Miss Judson's energetic administration, both in improved buildings and improved discipline, while the school has acquired added prestige thru the recent recognition given to Mr. Nishimura by the Educational Society of the *Ken*. Gunchu has added nearly 30 names to its church roll during the year, and the recent fine audience of 80 filled the preaching-place and gave emphasis to their present demand for a new church building. At Saijo the receiving into the church at one time of fifteen members,—nine by baptism and six by letter, was a notable event for that place, and speaks a whole volume for the efficient efforts of the workers there. A visit to Niihama and Shisaka Island, both connected with the Besshi copper mines, impressed me anew with the great opening here for the right man. The prevailing colors here may have the copper tinge, but the fields are white for the harvest all right. After two delightful days and nights with Pastor Tsuyumu, of Imabari, (who is always a fine anti-pessimistic tonic) and two fine meetings in that big and historic church, followed another several days at Marugame and vicinity, where four new names were added to the roll, in addition to the twelve that have been added during the past year.

Altogether there is much to encourage those who are "looking for the consolation," and the hearts of all are rejoicing at the certain prospects of the age of spiritual triumph that is surely dawning in Japan.

H. B. Newell.

Hokubu Chapel.

Those who remember that at Mission Meeting, the Okayama Station asked for a grant to repair the Hokubu Chapel, where I lived before going to America, in 1906, may be interested in the changes made, and in the work we are trying to do.

When I went there to live, nothing was done to the chapel. The walls were black and grimy with age and dirt, mostly dirt, for the building is over two hundred years old and was used as a *saké* brewery and store, for I don't know how long. The paper windows and a high lattice outside, made the room dark; truly it was a most uninteresting and

dungeon-like place. I do not wonder people did not care to come to the meetings. We have had part of the floor taken away, and have put in benches. The ceiling and posts have been painted white. The old paper windows have been taken out and glass ones put in their place, and the lattice taken away, and the room now is quite a pleasant one. In one corner, down stairs, we have a table, with a few papers, religious and secular, and the doors are open every afternoon to the public. In my old rooms upstairs, we have a Soldiers' Club. My old sitting room is turned into a reading room. We want very much, some good pictures to put on the walls. We have a table and chairs and a few books. We would be glad of gifts of either pictures, books or magazines. Besides the reading room, we have a rest room, a game room with all kinds of games, and the room that was my study, is to be a lounging room, where there will be a brazier with a kettle of hot water, and tea.

There is one Christian captain in this Division, and one has only to look at his face to know that he is a Christian; he is working with, and for us. The soldiers, too, are beginning to drop into our Tuesday evening meetings. And these meetings—why they are just the joy of the whole work. I always come home so happy, and yet so tired I cannot sleep for some time. Every meeting I think, "This meeting was better than the last one." The people, a year ago, would not come in, and I used to come home so tired, "with my heart way down in my boots," and think it was just no use. Surely "if ye have faith so much as a grain of mustard seed" is true, for I know my faith was very, very small, but the promise has been proved true, and the "mountain" is being removed. The room is half full every week, now, and there are many who are coming regularly, and I am "asking" that it may be full, and I am sure it will be so before long. I am spending much of my time in that part of the city, working for soldiers, children and young men, and am trying to get acquainted with the women; also the Japanese, are doing much more than ever before.

Some weeks ago we had a meeting of the Christians in that section of the city, and there were twenty-seven of us. The object of the meeting was to get acquainted with each other, and to talk over ways of making the place grow and become a center of Christianity.

Please pray, pray that this preaching-place may become a power for Christ in that part of the city, and for the soldiers.

M. E. WAINWRIGHT.

Dōshisha's Thirty-Third Year.

Thirty-three years ago to-day, Nov. 29, Dōshisha was founded by Joseph Neesima, in association with the senior members of the American Board Mission in Japan. The history of those thirty-three years is familiar to readers of MISSION NEWS; but no man can measure the force of those influences for good, which have gone forth from the Dōshisha schools to leaven the homes and the public life of Japan.

The Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors was held Nov. 27, 28, in the Theological Hall; it was characterized by the utmost harmony and unanimity in all action. Between its sessions, on the afternoon of the 27th, anniversary exercises were held in the chapel, at which Mr. Otsuka, of Tokyo, and the Hon. T. Yokoi gave inspirational addresses.

The past year has been one of encouraging progress in all departments, showing an enrollment of over eight hundred and an improved spirit. The coming of Prof. Mizusaki to the Economic Department of the College, was an event of prime importance; and his able, enthusiastic devotion gives promise of increased efficiency in that department. The Literary Department, as now constituted, possesses but slight superiority to the Economic in the way of practical

English training, and in consequence has been less successful. The trustees were therefore requested to secure an additional Japanese teacher, efficient in teaching English, and to authorize a modification of the department, with a view to greater practical efficiency, especially in preparing teachers of English for government schools. The extension of both departments of the College to four instead of three year courses, has been seriously considered; but owing to financial conditions, all definite action was deferred.

The Academy also presented its need of a new recitation building to care for its growing classes, which already are obliged to meet in thirteen divisions. This need, calling for at least 20,000 *yen* had to be referred to those who should consider the possibility of raising the money.

Members of the Mission will be pleased to hear of the complete renovation of the old hospital plant, so long unoccupied. For a term of three years the residence and the nurses' dormitory have been leased to the American Episcopal Mission for a Woman's Bible School, and the old wards, with an entrance from Muromachi, have been rented as a government tax office. The property is thus improved, and brought to yield an income which is now being applied to the endowment of the schools.

During the summer, President Harada received an invitation from Hartford Theological Seminary, to deliver a course of lectures at that institution, in the spring of 1910, upon the non-Christian religions of Japan, the course being one of a series covering several years. This honorable recognition is well deserved; and it has been hoped that Mr. Harada might be able to accept, for the best interests of Dōshisha. The trustees, to whom the question was referred, voted to approve his accepting the invitation if it should seem possible to him to provide for the administration of the schools during his absence. This, we believe, can be done; and Dōshisha will thus have the advantage of his visit to America when, at this time, renewed interest in the schools should be built up.

FRANK ALANSON LOMBARD.

Miyazaki Items.

One of the most important items is the visit of Dr. Rowland, of Sapporo. The coming to Hyuga of a foreigner is such a very rare thing that it is the event of the year, to the Hyuga missionaries, at least, when one like Dr. Rowland comes. He did us great good during his 16 days of touring in this field, by his very helpful addresses and suggestions, and by the opportunity afforded for mutual acquaintance; we wish more like him would come often.

He had meetings in seven places north of Miyazaki, and in four, west. Mr. Olds was with him in most places north; we regretted that he had not time to go thru the interesting Obi field, and that he could not stay longer in Miyazaki.

It seemed necessary, in spite of the lack of funds for touring, to make at least one visit during this last half of the year, to each of the most important places; and to complete this round, Mrs. Clark, Mr. Takahashi and I, in response to a most cordial invitation from the Obi Church, started Sept. 29, for that region. In Obi we had four days of meetings and making calls; on the fourth day there was a noon meeting at the *seishiba* (filature), at which Mrs. Clark and Mr. Takahashi spoke to the work-women and others connected with the factory, and an evening meeting combining a celebration of the Emperor's birthday, welcome for Mrs. Clark and Mr. Takahashi, farewell for one of the prominent families of the church, a prayer meeting and a social. At each of the evening meetings two of the church members spoke, besides the visitors. Two or three meetings of the women with Mrs. Clark were held. Preparations for the meetings had been thorough; audiences were large, and

every facility was given for making calls. This church began self-support in April last and is adjusting itself to the new problems involved, with admirable courage and hopefulness. Mr. Takenouchi's successor, Mr. Hanasaki, is a young man with Obi as his first charge. He seeks to set every one at work and is specially successful in this, tho that is not a new thing in Obi, which is the best working church in Hyuga. The visitors there, as usual, were overwhelmed with cordial expressions of friendliness and appreciation, including mountains of the most delicious oranges and persimmons brought to their hotel.

Large meetings were addressed and calls made in four other places in the Obi field. Then we went on to Miyakonojo. *En route*, while waiting an hour for a *basha*, in Shibushi, a doctor, not a Christian, came and invited us to his house, and called together his family and a neighbor friend to listen to a Bible exposition by Mr. Takahashi—all his own initiative. The pastor at Miyakonojo, Mr. Okamoto, has been very ill for two months. During his illness not a single church service was omitted, the church people themselves conducting the meetings when no one from outside was there to help, and the recovery of the pastor was made a special object of prayer. His remarkably rapid recovery was counted an answer to these prayers.

Our first meeting there Saturday evening, was one of thanksgiving for this recovery, of welcome to the newcomers, and of sociability. On Monday, Dr. Rowland came. Monday's meeting was so satisfactory that another for Tuesday was urgently asked, and the audience was still larger and very appreciative. From here Dr. Rowland, Mrs. Clark and I went on to the West Hyuga field, stopping for meetings in two places on the way to Minamata, the one place on the west side of Kyushu with which our Mission now has relations. This is still counted a part of the Miyazaki field, altho it has been impossible to visit it often. The Minamata church, has been for seven or eight years, without a pastor, and tho they seldom meet together, yet they do not lose hope of better times, and are even considering whether they can manage to empoly a pastor without aid from outside. This would be, of course, the best solution of the Minamata problem, and it had our hearty encouragement.

Here we parted with Dr. Rowland, regretfully, after a delightful week of travel and work together, he going home *via* Kumamoto and we returning to Hyuga. *En route*, we had one day each in five of the places in our West Hyuga field, reaching home after an absence of 24 days, which took in about 275 miles of travel, all in *basha*, except about an hour by railroad, and gave us an opportunity for about 60 addresses, to audiences aggregating about 2,300 people.

One of the most interesting things on this tour, as usual, has been the large company of school-children that gathered at every meeting, the most of them in their teens, eager, open-minded, responsive, the best listeners and the best soil in which to sow the good seed. This has been ample compensation for the labor and cost of the trip; while the good attendance of adults at the meetings, and the opportunities that the calling gave, were so much extra compensation.

Mrs. Clark grew stronger and more rested as the journey progressed. She did her full share of the speaking, especially taking the responsibility for the women's and the children's meetings. Her ability to use the language has apparently not lessened by her seven years' absence from Japan, and she has thoroughly demonstrated her ability to endure the strenuousness and discomforts of touring. This tour and others this autumn, have been for her, tours of inspection and preparation for future evangelistic work for women in Hyuga. The work in Miyazaki and vacinity continues to prosper and develop. One item in it is the new Sunday-school in

Ebira, begun by eliciting local interest in its maintenance and by a lantern lecture for its inauguration, and carried on with great success and increasing interest under Mr. Olds' leadership. Other work of the kind in the suburbs of Miyazaki, is being arranged for. Last Sunday three united with the Miyazaki church by baptism, and five by letter. House-building for the Olds family, is progressing.

C. A. CLARK.

The Junsei High School for Girls.

The Junsei (Follow Righteousness) Girls' School was started at Takahashi 27 years ago, by two Christians, Fukunishi Shigeko and Kimura Shizuko. It thus antedates the organization of the *Kumi-ai* church. At first, simply a sewing school, it has steadily developed thru the years, until now with a corps of fifteen teachers, it furnishes a full course of study. Its graduates number 500. For ten years it has been under the most efficient management of Mr. Ibuki Iwagoro, formerly pastor of the church. Nov. 14th was a red letter day in its history, for on that date was celebrated the completion of a fine Assembly Hall. This building seating five or six hundred, is 54×36 feet in size, and cost 2,500 *yen*. The remarkable thing about it is that the graduates provided the funds for its erection. In his report, the principal stated that the plant, the entire value of which is 15,500 *yen*, now consists of two school buildings, the new hall and three dormitories. The grounds cover about four acres. This school, founded with tears and blood, as he said, stands to-day firmly established as a private school. This position has not been maintained, however, without a struggle. For some time it has been receiving a yearly grant of money from the prefectural government. Three years ago the then governor made a very strong effort to have it become an ordinary government high school. In fact, it reacht the point where this became the only way to save the school, so that, tho with great regret, the management had decided to give it over to the government. Just then a change of governors took place. The new one recognized the value of its past history, enriched by the spirit of sacrifice, as an invaluable asset to the school. Hence a reversal of the previous action was secured. Tho the governor has been changed once again, this plan has been carried out. It has attained the rank and title of high school, while remaining as formerly, a private one. The new building thus becomes a tangible assurance of the fulfilment of the hopes of the founders for the character of the school.

The day was celebrated by most interesting exercises in the forenoon, held in the new Hall, and largely attended by the prominent people of the town. A representative of the governor was present, with a congratulatory address. Letters of the same nature, from the two previous governors, were read. The afternoon was given up to sports on the campus. Besides pictures of the school buildings, each guest was presented with a booklet, containing its history, entitled *Kwako no Omokage* (The Countenance of the Past.) Mr. Ibuki characterized the spirit of the work in the words, "not to be ministered unto, but to minister." One of the speakers said that both of the governors mentioned above, whose dispositions and attitude towards the school, were exactly opposite, pronounced Mr. Ibuki to be the most forceful and noble personality among all the educators of the prefecture.

While Christianity does not appear in the curriculum, the whole atmosphere of the school is Christian. Of the fifteen teachers, ten are Christians, of the 215 pupils, about thirty. The principal has three Bible classes weekly, at which attendance is voluntary.

The number of pupils in the dorm-

itories, is fifty or sixty, and they practically all attend the church services on Sunday. Under its present able administration this Christian school is assured of an increasingly successful future.

SCHUYLER S. WHITE.

Our Sendai Fall Opening.

As I had promised surely to make the usual fall tours, after not doing so for two years, tho I was in America only a year and a half, I felt obliged to return to Japan in midsummer, in order to get somewhat settled before so doing, and in order to have the house ready to begin classes between tours. Of course there was a great deal to do to the house and yard, much more than I had expected, and tho I had tried to get here in time to get the workmen before the others should be back from their vacations to need them, yet I could not get thru, and the coming of the Crown Prince caused everyone in Sendai to do *o soji* (cleaning), so it was exceedingly difficult to get workmen, even coolies; thus getting in order was much delayed. I just locked up and went off on the first tour before repairs were finished. It was necessary to be back for two great events, the coming of the Davises and the visit of the Crown Prince. On this trip of a week, I made 13 addresses in five places, Maezawa, Mizusawa, Kanegasaki, Sanuma and Nishikori, and it was so interesting to see the old friends, meet the new, and be *so* cordially welcomed everywhere, and made to feel that you *belonged* to them. One young married woman at Sanuma, who has been sick most of the year, and with whom we had a good talk and prayer-meeting, said, "I was so glad to read of your welcome-meeting in the *Gojo-kwan* at Sendai, and to know that we are again to have a *Kumi-ai* woman worker coming around." We made a good many calls, besides doing this more public work.

The visit of the Davises was an inspiration, a help and a great blessing wherever they were. One youth, who, because the pastor had to go to a relative's funeral, had the privilege of going with Dr. Davis to one place, and of sleeping in the same room with him, has not ceased to talk of the lessons and impressions he received, and he referred to them often in talking to others, on our Aizu trip. A woman's social meeting at my house, met to welcome and hear Mrs. Davis; more recently there has been another to welcome Mrs. DeForest and Miss Cozad, who gave us a flying visit on her way South. The women said they were greatly helped by all these talks. The *Chu-Ai no Tomo* Club sent a delegation to hear Dr. Davis at a meeting here, and it was one they will not soon forget. The same is true of the large meetings at the church. This club of Christian students at the *Koto Gakko*, included a welcome to me in their formal one to the new students, and were very glad to have me bring Mrs. Davis. I could fill all my space telling of the Davis visit.

Not all my Bible-classes are under way yet, I have had usually about ten a week, but long absence has made a big break, and it takes a while to start with new sets. I have one *Koto Kogyo Gakko* and two *Koto Gakko* Bible-classes, and one about to begin with students from the *No-Gakko*, while *sodan* are under way about a miscellaneous class and one from the *Chu Gakko*. We also have a young boys' club, which meets Tuesday nights, besides a girls' Bible-class, from the *Tokwa Jo Gakko*, which comes Saturday afternoons. Once a month the Christians in the post and telegraph office—some of them members of the old *Tsushin* C. E. Society from that office, who asked to use my rooms some afternoon, are to do so on Saturdays, this time; they had a social *sodankwai* and prayer-meeting here last Saturday. The ten present decided to get speakers — ministers or professors from the theological school—for their meetings, to announce their meetings in

the office, and to gather as many as possible to hear the speakers. My rooms are to be used for this purpose monthly. One evening I had a social and meeting for the workmen—painters, plasterers, carpenters, who had been making repairs on my house—and for any of their families who would come.

Finally, I wish I had space to describe the joy and anticipation over the DeForests' return, and the crowds at the station to welcome them, the fireworks, including our flag, as they entered the outskirts of Sendai, and the big welcome meeting by the city in the beautifully decorated hall.

It's good to be made to feel so wanted as well as so needed.

ANNIE H. BRADSHAW.

"The Fire-Fly's Lovers."

In his latest book (T. Y. Crowell & Co., 1908) Dr. Griffis has done an excellent piece of work for young people. The wide-awake boy or girl who enjoys a good story, will delight in these quaint fairy-tales. Those of us who have read some of these in Iwaya Sueō's (Sasanami) charming *Nippon Mukashi Banashi*, will miss something of the flavor imparted by his fine style, but their working up in English is well done. The author furnishes a score of stories, including half a dozen of his own authorship, harmonious enough in spirit to be worthy members of the list. We find such favorites as the story of the Kyoto and Osaka frogs, who met on Tennozan, near Yamazaki (the distance between the cities is stretched some *ri*), the Tongue-cut Sparrow, the Monkey and the Crab, Benkei and the Bell (the topography about Miidera is a little confused), Rashōmon or Raiko's expedition against the ogres who dwelt in Oeyama, Tamba, etc. We should have been glad to find other favorites in the list, such as the Matsuyama Mirror, *Usagi to Wani*, *Hana Saka Jiji*, etc. Children will enjoy this book for the stories' sake, while adults will find also no little reliable information about the customs, ideals and, in a word, civilization of the Japanese.

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